

THE PALATKA NEWS AND ADVERTISER

The Palatka News and Advertiser has been determined by the Third Assistant Postmaster General to be a publication entitled to admission to the mails as Second-Class Matter, and has accordingly been so entered at the Palatka postoffice.

An unofficial Newspaper of the Democratic sort—just the kind you should keep in your family.

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WM. A. RUSSELL, EDITOR.

PROBLEM CAUSES WORRY.

The republican leaders in Washington, we are told, are very much troubled over the political outlook. Their fear grows that a democratic house will be elected this fall.

There is a simpler way for the party which is in possession of both branches of congress and the presidency to insure itself against the disaster it dreads.

Let it get to work and legislate in the interest of the common people for a change.

How is that best to be done? By smashing a few trusts as an evidence of good faith by way of beginning. This congress is leaving the trust-smashing to the president and his attorney-general—and Mr. Roosevelt is so anxious that the smashing should be done on the "wise, conservative and judicious" principle, with a cotton-headed hammer, that the trusts are not alarmed in the least.

What would alarm the trusts would be some smashing on the stern and radical principle—smashing that would smash.

Congress can smash trusts by depriving them of the tariff protection which aids them to maintain monopolies and rob the consumer at will.

If congress should smash the food trust, for example, by repealing the duties that protect it against competition—which congress can do whenever it has the courage to give its vote for that act of justice—the fear of the republican leaders respecting the approaching elections would be much reduced.

That fear would be further reduced were the republican house to call up the Hanna-Payne ship subsidy bill—providing for an annual gift of millions of public money to Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Griscom and other needy multimillionaires who have just formed the great steamship trust—and kill it.

That would be incomparably better than giving the people to understand that this scandalous treasury raid has only been postponed until a more propitious season.

The republican leaders dread the coming congressional elections because they are afraid of the people. The cure for that fear, and the only cure, is to do things that shall cause them to deserve well of the people.

DON'T ALL HAVE TIME TO WEEP.

There is a saying that "men must work and women must weep," but it is far from the actual fact. Verily, a woman's work is never done, and no man, in office or engaged in manual labor, undertakes daily as many tasks as does the mother of a family when she has not the money with which to engage others to do the work for her. This was never better illustrated than in a New York court recently:

The judge said: "Please tell the court what you did between 8 and 9 o'clock that morning," and the witness, who was a woman, answered:

"I gave the two children their breakfast, dressed them for school, made up their lunches, washed the dishes, made the beds, sorted the soiled linen and put it in the tubs, swept and dusted the parlor, sewed a button or two on the children's clothes, interviewed the gas man, grocer, butcher, put off the landlord, and then—"

"That will do, madam," interrupted the judge.

An article comparing the amount of crime in South Carolina during the years of the dispensary system of selling liquor with the years immediately preceding, under the license system, is published in this paper, and the News trusts its readers will give it careful perusal. It ought to settle the minds of honest citizens to the fact that as a deterrent of crime, the dispensary is not what John Pevall would have us think it is.

The news comes from London that King Edward is taking treatment from a Christian Scientist. The conduct of the war in South Africa would rather lead to the belief that the monarch had been receiving absent treatment from a veterinary surgeon.

Governor Jeff Davis of Arkansas is under charges of the Little Rock church to which he belongs. The exact nature of the charges is kept secret, but it is more than hinted that he was guilty of drinking sweet wine with his fish, when he should have taken sauterne.

One by one the necessities of life are passing into the hands of the trusts. Now a flour trust is threatened. Thus far the people can congratulate themselves that no combine has as yet succeeded in getting a corner on the atmosphere.

Those who did not observe Lent during the regular period have an excellent opportunity now to obtain from meats for at least forty days and perhaps more.

Alarming Increase in Crime

Under Dispensary System.

T. J. La Motte of Columbia, S. C., who is regarded as a most reliable man, has prepared a statement, based on carefully tabulated figures, as to the prevalence of crime in South Carolina under the dispensary system. The article as it appeared in Charleston News and Courier is as follows:

The carnival of crime which characterizes this period in our State discloses a really alarming condition, and every effort which tends to emphasize the dangers it threatens, to suggest its causes and remedies, or to awaken the public to an appreciation of proper attitude and responsibilities of good citizenship in the matter, deserves serious consideration.

There can be no question as to the existence of a degree of lawlessness which has already dishonored the fair name of our people and which, if unchecked, will plunge us deeper and deeper in the abyss of crime and bloodguiltiness.

A prerequisite to any practicable reform must be a clear understanding of existing conditions and of the facts which bear upon them, and I beg to submit the results of a recent careful investigation of the criminal record, which may help to a correct view of the case.

The investigation covers the official data furnished by the annual reports of Attorney-Generals made to the Legislature of South Carolina for fourteen years—1887 to 1900, inclusive—being for the last six years—1887 to 1892—of the license system, and for the succeeding eight years of the dispensary system—1893 to 1900. The classes of crimes covered are those of violence against the person, such as assaults with intent to kill, assaults of violence with criminal intent and homicides, technically indictable as murders. Of these crimes the investigation has long since set at naught the 75 per cent are traceable, directly or indirectly, to the influence of strong drink, and the record is, therefore, an unflinching test as to the extent of which any system of regulation of the liquor traffic is a success or failure.

Statement showing the number of cases of crimes against the person and violation of the dispensary and license laws in South Carolina disposed of in the courts:

1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
Assaults.	593	633	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593
Homicides.	210	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
Violations, etc.	158	52	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106
Assaults.	702	375	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347
Homicides.	221	102	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
Violations, etc.	331	57	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67
Assaults.	695	442	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347
Homicides.	240	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105	105
Violations, etc.	426	31	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386
Assaults.	593	633	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593	593
Homicides.	210	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143	143
Violations, etc.	158	52	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106	106
Assaults.	612	325	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347
Homicides.	224	182	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110	110
Violations, etc.	317	61	256	256	256	256	256	256	256	256	256	256	256
Assaults.	588	382	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347	347
Homicides.	204	112	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
Violations, etc.	480	36	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441	441

Total excess for six years under dispensary: Assaults, 1,890; homicides, 557; violations of liquor laws, 2,481. The figures fully answer the question, "Is there any substantial foundation for the claim that crimes of violence are alarmingly increasing in South Carolina?"

They show that for the last six years of the dispensary management there has been an aggregate increase of more than 40 per cent in assaults, etc., and nearly 100 per cent increase of homicides, over the six years preceding the dispensary, under the license system.

A comparison of the last two years of the dispensary reported—1899-1900—shows an increase in the latter year of over 97 per cent in some classes of crimes.

Crimes against property—larceny, robbery, arson, etc.—have increased in a still greater ratio, as shown by the statements made to the Attorney-General's office by the Clerks of Court of the several counties and set forth in the Attorney-General's report.

They show cases of this class disposed of in 1899-1900: in 1899—710, over 125 per cent in one year.

Now, this increase of crime cannot be accounted for by increase of population during the same period, for the ratio of increase in the former exceeds many times that of the latter. Nor can it be attributed to the increase of illiteracy and pauperism, the two fruitful original sources of all crime, for the census tables show that both these causes have notably decreased within the period under consideration, and, necessarily, so far as they have influenced crime, we should look for a decrease in the same degree.

So, too, if the dispensary system, operated, as is claimed by those who are maintaining it, to check the crimes which are generated by liquor selling, and is an improvement in that respect over every other plan to regulate the traffic, how happens it that in the last six years in which it has exercised unimpeded control in this state it not only does not show some decrease in crime, but there is an actual doubling of crimes of all grades over the six years which preceded it under the license system? This is surely more than a mere coincidence.

The fact remains that with the increased output of intoxicants by the dispensary there has been a corresponding growth of the criminal record, and it is impossible for the honest mind to divorce their relation as cause and effect.

Proportion of convictions to cases in each of the above classes for six years, respectively—license, dispensary:

Case.	Convicted.	P. C.
Assaults.	1,420	27
1887-1892.	2,494	40
1893-1900.	3,574	40
Homicides.	739	46
1887-1892.	653	52
1893-1900.	1,298	52
Violations, etc.	260	52
1887-1892.	2,311	24
1893-1900.	2,311	24

So much as to facts to which these figures testify. Now, as to the influences which operate to foster, perpetuate and increase the criminality and lawlessness inherent in the system.

It is safe to assert that the purpose of everyone in any way connected with the distribution of intoxicants through the dispensary is to foster its influence, increase its sales and make the business permanent in the State. So zealously have they pursued this purpose that the provisions which the law originally contained for outside interference to prevent abuse and limit sales have been almost entirely removed, and under the unrestrained control of the system which has been maintained through all changes, the main support from the State, the restrictive provisions have been disregarded, the sales have doubled within a few years, the illicit trade openly encouraged by the dispensary managers has also largely increased, and it has come to at last to be regarded by its controllers as safely beyond reach of interference by the people, the courts or any other power.

The "blind tigers," more numerous in either of the larger cities of the State than the ninety-four dispensaries and the twenty-four illegal beer dispensaries run by the State, by reason of their valuable patronage of the dispensaries, are screened from prosecution, as is shown from the facts appearing in the table above, that out of 2,311 cases of violation brought into court from 1887 to 1900 only 350-24 per cent—were convicted; in striking contrast with the fact that for the years 1887-1892, under the old license system, out of 260 cases 139, or 54 per cent, were convicted.

These are the facts of record, and they are sufficient of themselves to condemn the system. If this statement of them shall in any degree serve to awaken the large, but indifferent, element of our citizens who can control the matter if they will to a sense of their duty in the premises, I shall feel that I have been amply repaid for the severe labor which has been involved in setting them forth.

Another fact disclosed by this investigation in connection with an examination of the reports of the dispensary managers is that the liquor traffic in South Carolina, legal and illegal, derives its main support from the laboring classes, white and colored, and as a result it is from this class that the criminal record is recruited at such an appalling ratio of increase.

It is doubtless true that the large majority of the people of the State are comparatively free from the vices and crimes engendered by indulgence in strong drink, and are progressing along the lines of religion, education and morality, yet they are criminally negligent or indifferent to the improvement of the most exposed to the demoralizing influence of the liquor traffic, whose inhuman greed will be satisfied with nothing less than the utter ruin of its helpless victims.

I am constrained to add the remark that in my judgment, the class who are wholly responsible for the continuance of this condition of vice and crime in South Carolina are not the dispensary managers, from the Executive to the constabulary, and their confederates, the blind tigers, all of whom, individually and collectively, are in the business for what money or political influence they can get out of it; nor is it the legislators, who year by year hold their hands off the unclean thing, but it is the voters of the State who, with the solemn obligation of Christian citizenship upon them, either openly sustain the system or refuse to join hands with those who would correct it. These could put an end to the evil if they would, and, failing of their duty, they become responsible in the sight of God, and will be held to answer for the direful consequences which result from it.

T. J. LA MOTTE.

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

St. Paul's parish, Eastchester, N. Y., is 225 years old. Its present rector, Rev. William Samuel Coffey, has served it for half a century.

An earnest effort, with some promise of success, is being made by the Congregationalists of England to provide a fixed pension available for every one of their ministers over 65 years of age.

The American board of foreign missions finds India one of the largest and most accessible fields in the world. It has a population of over 291,000,000 who are accessible to the Christian teacher.

The Salvation Army is floating an issue of \$150,000 of bonds to provide homes for the poor. On file are applications from more than 1,000 families anxious to leave New York city and settle on farming land.

Benjamin F. Jacobs, who was the originator of the international uniform lesson series, which was adopted at the Indianapolis convention in 1872, has just retired from Sunday school work after a service extending over 46 years.

A united Methodist hymn book in England is said to be now clear. It is agreed that the Wesleyans, embracing about 2,112,000 adherents, the Methodist New Connexion with 168,000, the Reform Union with 44,000, the Irish Methodists with 100,000, and the Methodists of Australia with 1,000,000 shall unite in using the hymnal when ready.

During the year 1901 the missionaries of the American Sunday School union in northwestern district have organized 521 new Sunday schools, having 1,771 teachers and 16,467 scholars, reorganized 316 schools, having 924 teachers and 9,790 scholars. They aided 8,860 teachers are giving Bible instruction to 95,936 scholars, delivered 9,421 addresses, distributed 4,907 Bibles and Testaments, made 97,103 visits to families, circulated \$4,341 worth of religious literature and traveled 592,177 miles.

WHAT WOMEN ARE WEARING.

Sleeves are exceedingly ornate below the elbow, but tucks and cordings or occasional insertions appear above, these kept closely shaped and fitted.

Tea gowns of diaphanous materials are now used in place of dinner gowns (in one's own home, of course) by some women. This makes it necessary to have several with low necks.

Waistcoats are of the fanciful type and very few are perfectly plain. Spotted pannes with a pouch front and the fastening arranged with tiny straps of velvet and steel buttons is chic in a cloth gown, and so is a vest composed of alternate stripes of tuck silk and lace, with three lines of bebe velvet drawn in and out.

Silk gingham and mercerized Madras amount to the same thing. Both are charming fabrics for morning frocks when the mercury climbs high in the tube. With the plain colors a beautiful and distinguished effect may be had. Pretty, too, are those with white cord stripes; these come in reseda, coral, castor and gray and maize.

The flower hat leads all others. It is made of roses, in shaded pink, in toque shape and with only just enough tulle showing underneath the flowers to give them a soft appearance—for flowers, be it known, are sometimes a bit stiff and hard. The tulle is either green, the color of the leaves, rose pink, white or black, but the green is the smartest.

HEALTH AND COMFORT.

The secret of a perfect figure is a general muscular development.

Onions are a tonic for the nerves, but people will be forever prejudiced because of their odor.

Cramp in the leg may be quickly relieved by stretching the heel as far out as possible and drawing up the toes.

Sprains and bruises should be rubbed with liniment. The following is an excellent recipe: Take two parts each of camphorated oil and alcohol and one part of chloroform. Shake well before using and apply with the palm of the hand.

Stye in the Eye.—Make a little poultice of the soft part of a baked apple tied up in muslin and apply it to the eyelid; keep it in its place by a bandage round the head. If this be done at night the stye will be much better, if not cured, by the morning.

For burns and scalds nothing is better than a mixture of equal parts of linseed oil and lime water. Apply on lint or soft linen and bind up the wounded part to exclude the air. This mixture, which is known as caron oil, should be kept in readiness in every household, for one can never tell when an accident will happen, and when it has happened the remedy cannot be applied too soon.

ASIATIC AFFAIRS.

Poppy cultivation is driving out wheat growing around Poonchong, China. Opium producing pays very much better.

During the last century the Chinese Yellow river changed its course 22 times. Its present mouth is 600 miles away from its mouth of 1800.

They have sometimes a curious way of deciding lawsuits in North Siam. Both parties are put under cold water, and the one staying under the longest wins the suit.

Shanghai bids fair to become, the great halfway house between east and west, the terminus eastward of the European lines and the westward of the transpacific.

Live Musk. A new New York Zoo. The only live musk ox ever exhibited on the American continent has been added to the New York Zoological park, and will remain there as long as artificial ice and a deep, cold cave can persuade it to keep its health and life 5,000 miles away from home.

The ox was captured in March, 1901, directly north of the Great Bear lake and a score of miles from the Arctic ocean. Four others were taken at the same time, but they fell prey to the sledge dogs.



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